

in rest and quietly went to sleep. It is a comforting reflection that here and there on the hillsides of our beautiful land are planted immortal sleepers—like the bodies of these worthy people—that will some day appear in all that is radiant and lovely. It is touching to reflect how widely apart are the graves of their children. Kansas, Ohio, Iowa, Missouri, and West Virginia have graves where members of this family are waiting for the coming of the Redeemer they learned to know and love in the old paternal home on Stony Creek.

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### WILLIAM YOUNG.

This sketch is designed to perpetuate the memory of an early citizen of our county, whose influence was on the side of morality and education.

Samuel Young, ancestor of the Youngs of Pocahontas, was a native of London. He came to America about 1756, leaving his parents, John and Amy Young, in England, and settled in Madison County, Virginia. He afterwards lived some years on Knapps Creek, Pocahontas County. He entered lands, and then sold much of it to settlers for ginseng, deer skins, and furs. This produce he took away to Winchester or Fredericksburg, and exchanged for merchandise, which he bartered or peddled, and thus acquired considerable wealth. When he became quite old, he visited his son Charles, in Kentucky, and never returned.

John Young, one of his sons, was born in Madison

County, February 18, 1761. He volunteered in the war of the Revolution, served his term of enlistment, and then was drafted into the service.

About 1803 or 1804, he came to Anthony Creek, in Greenbrier, and remained a few years. In the meantime he inherited considerable land on Swago Creek. In 1809 he settled on Swago and opened up the "Young Place," that commands such a beautiful prospect from the sides of Rich Mountain.

John Young was married twice. His first wife was Sarah Rogers, and during her life he lived in Madison County. The names of her children were James, Elizabeth, John, Jane, Samuel, and William. She died July 6, 1806, leaving her youngest child William aged four years.

John Young married Margaret Rogers, on Anthonys Creek, in 1804. The names of her children were Sarah Ann, Martha, and Andrew.

Her daughter, Mrs Martha Adkinson, was living in 1894, on the "Young Place," in her 78th year, and the only survivor of one of the original pioneer families of our county. She had been blind for seven years, with cataract, and most of her time was busily occupied in knitting.

John Young died July 5, 1843, aged 82 years, 4 months, and 18 days. Captain William Young was born in Madison County, May 1798, and was about 5 years old when his father moved to this region. His youth was spent on the sides of Rich Mountain. His first teachers were William Aldridge, Squire John McNeill, and William McNeill. The school house was

on Rush Run, a mile or so from its confluence with Swago Creek. In early manhood he entered John McNulty's school, at the McNulty Place, near Marvin Chapel. From this teacher he learned surveying, which qualified him for the office he held for a number of years. The text book used by Captain Young in the study of surveying is yet in the possession of Capt. William Cochran's family, whose first wife was Capt. Young's sister Elizabeth. On its well filled title page appears the following:

GEODÆSIA, or the Art of Surveying and Measuring of Land made easy; showing by plain and Practical Rules how to survey. Moreover, A more sure and facile Way of Surveying by the Chain than has hitherto been taught. As also how to lay out New Lands in America or elsewhere, with Several other Things never yet Published in our

Language.

By JOHN LOVE,

The Seventh Edition,

London, 1760.

In the address to the reader, the author says: What would be more ridiculous than for me to praise an art that all mankind know they can not live peaceably without. It is near hand as ancient (no doubt on't) as the world. For how could men set down to plant without knowing some distinction and boundary of their land. But (necessity being the mother of invention) we find the Egyptians, by reason of the Nile's overflowing—which either washed away all their bound marks, or covered them over with mud, brought this measuring of land first into an art, and honoured much

the professors of it. The great usefulness, as well as the pleasant and delightful study and wholesome exercise of which tempted so many to apply themselves thereto, that at length in Egypt, as in the Bermudas, every rustic could measure his own land.

On a fly leaf is this, in the handwriting of the young student, now in the 20th year of his age:

William Young, his book. Bought of  
Mr John McNulty, price six shillings.  
Aprile 16th, 1818, on Thursday.

Previously to him the following persons seemed to have owned the book:

Israel Hollowell, May 9, 1775  
John Goodrich, February 13, 1794  
Joseph Fisherton, January 30, 1795  
George Harrison, February 13, 1805  
Joseph McNulty.

This copy was bound in very substantial calf skin, and when it became worn on the back edges by sixty years service in so many hands, it was repaired by a wide strip of dressed deer skin, sewed on by waxed threads such as shoemakers use.

His tuition for two months was nine shillings, (\$1.50) —seventy-five cents per month. Having learned surveying with Mr McNulty Captain Young taught school a few months, and then repaired to Lewisburg, West Virginia, where he studied grammer, taught by Dr McElhenney, as a specialty, according to old Green-leaf of bitter memory to grammar students of that

period. One study at a time, was the rule then. People have learned differently since. Upon his return from Lewisburg, Mr Young opened a school on Stony Creek, in the school house near George Baxters. His first grammar scholar was Samuel Waugh, brother of the late Rev John Waugh of revered memory. The school was taught by on the open or vocal plan, and Samuel Waugh did not object to the noise. Captain Young seems to have had the monopoly of grammar teaching on Stony Creek for many years.

Having completed his education, so advanced for his day, and under so many difficulties, his thoughts turned to settling himself in life. He was happily married to Miss Ann Smith, and built up a home on Stony Creek, and reared up a highly respectable family of sons and daughters.

He was the captain of the Stony Creek Company, Justice of the Peace, and was the second Surveyor of Pocahontas County, successor to Sampson Mathews.

He was a very quiet, exemplary person in youth, but did not unite with any church until somewhat advanced in life, when he became a member of the Methodist church.

He died of consumption, November 24, 1848, and his grave is in the Duffield grave yard, marked by a lettered stone. His widow and most of the children went west. Mrs Young was a person of uncommon force of character, and was much esteemed for her many virtues. She died in her far western home, 8th of May, 1891, aged 90 years.

Adam Young, one of the sons, married Susan Gay.

and their two sons, John and Adam, are about all of Captain Young's descendants—of his name—in the county, with whose history he was so prominently identified for so many years.

Colonel Samuel Young, whose memory was recently honored by a large outpouring of the citizens at the Sulphur Spring, Sunday, May 3, 1894,—according to an appointment made forty years before, that if alive, he would meet them there that day—was his second son. He was a local preacher, and afterwards an officer in the Union army. He did not live to meet his unique appointment, and among those who assembled forty years after, there were eleven who were present at the original meeting, which was a preaching service in the open air, a large rock serving for a pulpit.

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### ADAM CURRY.

A generation since, one of the best known characters in West Highland, Virginia, was Captain Adam Curry, a Revolutionary veteran. One of his grandsons, William Curry, is a well known citizen of Pocahontas County.

Captain Curry was a native of Scotland, and came to America, and resided several years near Manasses Junction. He was among the first to enlist in the war of the Revolution, and was chosen captain of his company, and participated in all the engagements in which Virginia troops were engaged that followed Mercer and Washington.

Soon after the war he gathered up the remnants of